



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	Lawrence Bernard KOOL
Serial No.	09/771,186
Filing Date	January 29, 2001
Title	A METHOD FOR REMOVING OXIDES AND COATINGS FROM A SUBSTRATE
Examiner	Bibi Sharidan Carrillo
Art Unit	1746

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Box AF  
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO  
 FINAL OFFICE ACTION (PAPER NO. 7)**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed December 6, 2002, rejecting claims 1-34 of the above-identified Application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments and remarks be considered.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please rewrite claims 1, 6, 16, 23, 24, and 27 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for removing an oxide material from a surface of a substrate or a coating disposed on the substrate, comprising the step of contacting the oxide material with an aqueous composition which comprises an acid having the formula  $H_xAF_6$ , or precursors to said acid, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of Si, Ge, Ti, and Ga; and x is 1-6.

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